



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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**U.S. CHARGES BROOKLYN MAN FOR ENGAGING IN FOREIGN SEX
TOURISM RING INVOLVING CHILDREN**

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and JOHN C. VARRONE, special agent in charge of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement announced the unsealing today of a criminal Complaint, charging STEFAN IRVING with a single count of traveling to Mexico for the purpose of engaging in sexual acts with minors.

According to the Complaint, filed in Manhattan Federal Court in 1996, federal investigators undertook a nationwide law enforcement initiative focusing on individuals suspected of traveling to Mexico for the purpose of engaging in sexual acts with children.

The investigation came to focus on a guest house, known as Castillo Vista del Mar, located in Acapulco, Mexico. The Complaint states the investigation demonstrated that Castillo Vista del Mar operated in 1998 and 1999 and existed to cater to

adult males who lived in the United States and desired to have sex with boys in Mexico.

The Complaint states that the boys who stayed at Castillo Vista del Mar were often homeless orphans or for other reasons living on the streets and beaches of Acapulco, Mexico. In exchange for shelter, food, clothing, and gifts, the boys, ranging in age from 6 to 17, would engage in sexual activity with the adults staying at Castillo Vista del Mar.

The Complaint alleges that IRVING traveled to Mexico in May, 1998. Upon his return, Customs officials found IRVING with images of himself taken with young boys at Castillo Vista del Mar, and letters promoting Castillo Vista del Mar.

The Complaint also states that the former manager of Castillo Vista del Mar stated that IRVING visited Castillo Vista del Mar at least once, perhaps twice. IRVING was observed by the manager to accompany a boy into his bedroom at night.

IRVING, 56, lives in Brooklyn. He was arrested this morning, and presented today in front of United States Magistrate Judge MICHAEL DOLINGER, where he was held without bond. IRVING faces a detention hearing on Wednesday, May 7, at 2:30 pm in front of Magistrate DOLINGER.

Mr. COMEY praised the investigative efforts of the Bureau of Immigrations and Customs Enforcement in this case.

If convicted, IRVING faces a maximum of 30 years in prison.

COMEY stated the investigation is continuing.

Assistant United States Attorney MICHAEL SCUDDER, JR.
is in charge of the prosecution of this case.

The charges contained in the Complaint are merely
accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and
until proven guilty.

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